



ESSO WEEKLY MEMO – OCTOBER 14, 2010

IN THIS MEMO:

ACTION NEEDED

1. NECTAC QUESTIONS FOR LOCAL EARLY STEPS
2. QUARTERLY VERIFICATION SUBMISSION REMINDER

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

3. DATA CLEANSING UPDATE
4. MEDICAID UPDATE
5. HEARING LOSS IN CHILDREN WEBSITE
6. NECTAC NEWS

UPCOMING MEETINGS, TRAININGS, CONFERENCES AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

7. PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD): EVIDENCE-INFORMED FOR PTs AND OTs
8. THE FLORIDA FIGHTS FASD COMMUNITY ACTION SUMMIT

9. TWO UPCOMING WEBINARS ADDRESSING THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN
10. ANNUAL CARD CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN

ACTION NEEDED

NECTAC QUESTION FOR LOCAL EARLY STEPS

NECTAC has posted the question below on behalf of a state. ESSO knows that many of you have productivity standards for Service Coordinators and perhaps for other staff as well. **Please send your reply directly to Lynda Cook Pletcher at the contact information below.** If you would like to receive the compiled information, please indicate so in your response.

"Has any state applied the concept of "Productivity Standards" to Early Intervention providers? If so, would you please be willing to share what percentage of total time you have established for which activities and which professionals."

Lynda Cook Pletcher
Technical Assistance Specialist
919 843-2276
lynda.pletcher@unc.edu
National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center
FPG-Child Development Institute at UNC
517 S Greensboro Street
Carrboro, NC 27510-2341

QUARTERLY VERIFICATION SUBMISSION REMINDER

For those Local Early Steps entering "raw" level data into the Data Manager, remember to **submit information to the TATS online reporting system** for Verification Reporting at:
http://www.tats.ucf.edu/Forms/survey/LES_Report.html

If you were submitting "raw" level data and have switched to "item" level since the last verification, **please notify** David Johnson (David_Johnson3@doh.state.fl.us) and Sue Donovan (sdonovan@mail.ucf.edu).

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

DATA CLEANSING UPDATE

Kudos to Western Panhandle, Central Florida, Treasure Coast, Gold Coast, Big Bend, Space Coast, Gulf Central, and North Beaches for their efforts in data cleansing. Each of you are up to date with all data cleansing efforts.

Further Kudos to all Local Early Steps for completing the *Exit Data Fixes*. Your hard work reflects well on all of us at Early Steps!

MEDICAID UPDATE (With 2 Attachments)

MEDICAID BILLING ISSUES:

- THERAPY SERVICES PROCEDURE CODES 92507 AND 92507 HM: The therapy NCCI billing issue for these two therapy codes has been resolved. The National Correct Coding Initiative caused a billing issue with CPT code 92507 for providers billing in excess of one unit. The attached Provider Alert is being routed to inform providers to **resume billing for these codes**.
- MEDICAID BILLING ISSUES STATUS: CODE T1024TL: T1024TL procedure code issue is an EIS evaluation code for professionals. It has not been paying for some time now. It has only been paying for one unit and not up to 4 units. Medicaid THINKS they have fixed it and it should start paying correctly from September 02, 2010 forward. If it does not, Gail Underwood will still need the providers to let her know. *Once they know it is fixed for sure, providers can start resubmitting for corrected payment.*

MEDICAID HEALTH CARE AND PROVIDER ALERTS MESSAGES:

- REMINDER...NPI IMPLEMENTATION JANUARY 1, 2011: All providers required to obtain a NPI number must include that number on any Medicaid claim starting January 1, 2011 [is currently being encouraged but not yet strictly enforced].
NOTE: it's not enough for the PMS system and UF Data System to have the NPI and for all billing to have the NPI; ALL providers must submit their NPI to the Medicaid fiscal agent (HP) as described within the attached NPI Implementation official notice from AHCA.

HEARING LOSS IN CHILDREN WEBSITE

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a new *Hearing Loss in Children website!* This is a research-based site that is user-friendly, up-to-date, and appealing. Some of the features include.....

- Easy-to-read information on signs & symptoms, screening & diagnosis, treatment services, and prevention.
- A compilation of important data and scientific publications.
- Individualized pages for different visitors – families, health professionals, EHDI programs, and partners.
- An overview of the work CDC and its partners are doing in the area of hearing loss.
- On the home page, there is an item called “Hearing Loss Widget.” You can put this widget on your website to help spread the word about symptoms of hearing loss.

Visit the website: www.cdc.gov/hearingloss. Be sure to check back often for added content and features!

NECTAC NEWS

For the current issue of NECTAC eNotes go to <http://www.nectac.org/enotes/enotes.asp>

UPCOMING TRAININGS, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD): EVIDENCE-INFORMED INTERVENTION FOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADUATION (With 3 Attachments)

Working with the Experts (WWE) for Occupational and Physical Therapists – Announcing the presentation of *Practical Strategies for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): Evidence-Informed Intervention for Preschool through Graduation*, with Dr. Jane Case-Smith, OTR/L Professor Ohio State University and Katie Alexander, M.S, OTR formerly of the Ivymont School.

This daylong training will be repeated in three locations: October 27 in Miami, October 28 in Orlando and October 29 in Gainesville. The training is free of charge to all participants. A brochure is attached for each location with detailed information. School district registration allocations will not be enforced but priority will be given to districts in the region where the training is being held. To facilitate an orderly process, only registrations submitted by the OT/PT Contact/Coordinator in each school district will be accepted. The brochures provide directions for the OT/PT Contacts/Coordinators regarding how to complete the online registration and the number of participant slots per district. Please complete the registration process online at the Weekends with the Experts website (<http://www.flwwe.net>). Please contact Peg Sullivan at

msulliva@fgcu.edu or 239 590-7748, with any questions concerning these events, or Jennifer Hykes at Jennifer.Hykes@fldoe.org.

- Link: <http://www.flwwe.net>
- Contact: Peg Sullivan at (239) 590-7748, or by email msulliva@fgcu.edu; or Jennifer Hykes at Jennifer.Hykes@fldoe.org

THE FLORIDA FIGHTS FASD COMMUNITY ACTION SUMMIT

Reminder - The **Florida Fights FASD** Community Action Summit is being held in Tallahassee on October 20 and 21, 2010. The Summit will help ignite campaign torchbearers by providing the tools and tactics needed to launch and sustain FASD awareness campaigns in local communities. The event is free of charge and includes breakfast and lunch. You may register and find additional information about the Summit on the **Florida Fights FASD** website at www.FASD-FL.org. If you are unable to participate in person you can still participate via online webcast accessible through the campaign website.

TWO UPCOMING WEBINARS ADDRESSING THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN

The Infant and Toddlers Coordinators Association (ITCA) Leadership Services Committee is pleased to announce the addition to the ITCA website www.idealinfanttoddler.org of two webinars addressing the Social Emotional Development of Young Children. A new page titled "webinars" has been added to the site and both webinars and their associated materials are posted there. We are grateful to the TACSEI Center who sponsored the development of the webinars and Maria Synodi from the 619 Consortium who partnered with Erin Kinavey and the committee to produce this significant membership benefit.

ANNUAL CARD CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Registration is now open for the 18th Annual Statewide Autism Conference, Sponsored by Florida's Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD), and Florida Outreach Project for Children & Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind (FOP). This year's Conference, THINK AUTISM, will be held at the Lake Mary Marriott in Lake Mary, Florida, January 15-16, 2011. The conference will feature more than 25 nationally recognized presenters, and is designed for educators, service providers and families of individuals with ASD to learn about state-of-the art practices and programs to support optimal develop of children and adults with autism and related disabilities. Early Bird Registration is \$110 (CEUs available at additional charge). To register online, go to www.ucf-card.org and click on the CARD Shoppe, or go directly to <http://CARD.ucf-card.org>

To learn more about the conference, go to http://ucf-card.org/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&id=10:documents .

Registration for the hotel block is available now. Make your hotel reservation directly with Marriott Lake Mary by calling 407-995-1100. The conference room rate is \$125 for single, double, or triple occupancy. To receive these rates, you must identify yourself as a CARD Conference participant. Rates will only be available until January 12, 2010, on a space available basis. Parking is complimentary on site.

Seats and hotel rooms are limited, so early registration is recommended. The Early Registration Deadline is December 10th, 2010.

If additional information regarding the conference is needed, call 407 823 6011 or email ucfcard@mail.ucf.edu

The FLDOE and Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA) announces the Annual Pre-conference Day for Educators on January 14, 2011. This is held in conjunction with the 18th Annual Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) Conference. The conference will take place from January 15-16, 2011, in Orlando, FL at Marriott Lake Mary Hotel. Two Keynote presentations will be given by Dr. Mara Sapon Shevin, Professor of Inclusive Education at Syracuse University (Widening the Circle: Lessons from Inclusive Classroom) and Dr. Susan Wilczynski, Executive Director of the National Autism Center (Evidence-based Practices: An Overview of the National Standards Project). Throughout the Pre-conference, posters will be displayed showcasing the Partnership Program Outcomes for 2008-2009, and breakout sessions will highlight selected innovations created by Florida Teachers. This Preconference is available to educators at no charge. Seats and hotel rooms are limited, so early registration is recommended. The Early Registration Deadline is December 10th, 2010. For more information go to http://ucf-card.org/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&id=10:documents .

Registration is now open!

* Link: <http://CARD.ucf-card.org>

* Contact: Donna Casella at 813-974-6168 or dcasella@fmhi.usf.edu